

South King County Projects Update

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South King County traffic closures this week

NOTE: No traffic closures are scheduled from noon Friday, Sept. 1 to noon Tuesday, Sept. 5 to accommodate Labor Day weekend travelers.

Interstate 5, Federal Way to Tukwila

Monday through Thursday nights we'll [close three southbound lanes](#) between I-405 and S. 188th Street for restriping.

Monday through Thursday nights we'll [close up to three lanes in each direction](#) between S. 320th Street and the Pierce County line for pavement improvements.

Tuesday through Thursday nights expect ramp closures at the SR 18 interchange from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. for paving. Detours will be in place.

State Route 18, Auburn and Federal Way

Monday through Thursday nights expect [lane and ramp closures at SR 167](#) as crews drill shafts and install drainage.

Monday through Thursday nights expect [lane closures near I-5](#) for bridge work.

Tuesday through Thursday nights expect ramp closures at the I-5 interchange from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. for paving. Detours will be in place.

State Route 99, Kent

Monday through Friday expect [daytime single lane closures northbound and southbound](#) for clearing shoulders, drainage work, and restriping.

Improved SR 18 opens this week between Maple Valley and Issaquah Hobart Road

Crews are close to completing WSDOT's [State Route 18 widening project](#) between Maple Valley and Issaquah Hobart Road. On Thursday, Aug. 31 we expect to open the new eastbound roadway and to remove the last signal on SR 18 between I-5 and I-90.

During the last three years of construction we transformed what was a narrow, winding two-lane rural highway into a modern, divided four-lane freeway with interchanges.

While the new eastbound roadway is a two-lane section, the left lane (next to the median) will remain closed to allow crews to remove the temporary transition roadways at each end of the project and complete minor grading and guardrail installation in the median. This will last into mid- to late September. Following that, drivers can expect weekday single lane closures through the length of the project into October as crews work to complete stormwater pond and wetland mitigation site work alongside the highway.

After the traffic switch, westbound traffic will continue in a single lane while crews remove temporary transition roadways, pave a final layer of asphalt and place new striping. We expect to open the second westbound lane in mid-October.

In this project WSDOT and Atkinson Construction:

- widened three and a half miles of SR 18
- improved safety by separating eastbound and westbound traffic with a median
- removed the last stoplight on SR 18 between I-5 and I-90 and replaced it with a new interchange at 244th Avenue SE
- built a new bridge over SR 18 at SE 200th Street
- removed old surface street intersections at 236th Avenue SE, 244th Avenue SE, and SE 200th Street
- replaced bridges over SR 169 and the Cedar River
- improved salmon passage and habitat in Taylor Creek by replacing culverts with bridges and by realigning a 1500-foot section of the creek
- built 49 acres of wetland mitigation sites

Tune your radio to 1520 AM to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way.

[Submit questions or comments.](#)

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